

4 August 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

VIA:

[redacted]
Director, Intelligence Community Staff

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FROM:

[redacted]
Director, Office of Planning

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SUBJECT: Machine Assisted Translation - Japanese to English

1. There is a growing backlog of untranslated Japanese scientific and technical material. FBIS has recognized the problem for some time and is in the process of expanding the number of staff and contract positions devoted to the problem. They have, however, had considerable difficulty in recruiting Japanese linguists with the required technical qualifications. Based upon a review of current on-going and related activities, we believe a machine assisted translation procedure would serve to reduce the current backlog and aid in maintaining the required throughput. We should note however, that the final product will be "analyst quality" translations and will not produce the "general reader" quality required for wide-scale distribution.

2. We are in the process of preparing a production enhancement proposal (draft attached) to develop a machine-assisted Japanese-to-English translation capability. We have had discussions with [redacted] from the DDS&Ts' Office of Research and Development (ORD) (who will develop the procedure) and [redacted] and staff in the FBIS's Production Division (who will be the ultimate user of the system). We are currently in the coordination and cost development phase of the proposal, and expect to submit it as an FY 1984 enhancement request. We estimate a 19-24 month/\$2M project managed by ORD to develop an operational capability.

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Attachment:

Production Enhancement Proposal (Japanese Language
Machine Assisted Translation)